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VALLEJO STATION A FINALIST FOR \$2 MILLION MTC GRANT

VALLEJO - The Metropolitan Transportation Commission has announced that the City of Vallejo is a finalist for a \$2.07 million Transportation for Livable Communities grant for Vallejo Station.

The grant funds would be used for the bus transfer station and the York Street paseo, two key elements of the City's downtown and waterfront revitalization plans. The funds would be used to create a safe, comfortable environment for transit patrons in the area.

As with past grant cycles, competition for TLC funds was fierce. MTC received 55 applications totaling just over \$110 million in requests. However, with only \$18.4 million available for programming, MTC was able to fund just 11 high-impact projects that exemplify the goals of the TLC Program. The award becomes final after a 30-day public comment period beginning November 1 and after the MTC board approves the recommendation for funding through a resolution in early December. If approved, the City will match the grant with \$269,103.

"This grant award provides important additional funding for this transit project," said Craig Whittom, Community Development Director for the City of Vallejo. "The parking structure, bus transfer station and walkway to the waterfront, are critical to stimulating additional activity and investment in our downtown and waterfront areas. We are pleased that MTC feels this regional-serving transit project meets the spirit and goals of the TLC program."

The \$52 million Vallejo Station project is approximately 90 percent funded. Construction is expected to begin as early as 2005 for the bus transfer station and pedestrian streetscape enhancements and in mid 2007 for the remainder of the project.

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The project includes about 1,400 parking spaces in an above-ground structure with shops and other retail outlets on the ground floor and approximately 265 residential units including 12 live-work units.

The project was supported by the Solano Transportation Authority, with letters of support written by Vallejo Main Street and Callahan/DeSilva Vallejo, LLC as well as from various local representatives.